IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9-11 and 13-15 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 2, 6, 8 and 12 and add new Claim 16 as follows.

Claim 1.   (Cancelled).

2.   (Currently Amended) A method of converting a representation of a first image, having a first set of overlapping graphic objects, into a display list representation of a visually equivalent second image, having a second set of non-overlapping graphic objects, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) ~~categorising~~ categorizing each graphic object in the first set as being one of (i) a fully visible graphic object, (ii) a partly visible graphic object, and (iii) an invisible graphic object;

(b) defining, in relation to each said fully visible graphic object in said first set, a substantially identical graphic object in the second set; and

(c) defining, in relation to visible regions of each said partly visible graphic object in said first set, one or more non-overlapping graphic objects being visually equivalent to the partly visible graphic object, in the second set.

Claims 3-5.   (Cancelled).

6.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the first set of overlapping graphic objects and the second set of non-overlapping graphic objects are opaque.

Claim 7.   (Cancelled).

8.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for converting a representation of a first image, having a first set of overlapping graphic objects, into a display list representation of a visually equivalent second image, having a second set of non-overlapping graphic objects, said apparatus comprising:

(a) means for ~~categorising~~ categorizing each graphic object in the first set as being one of (i) a fully visible graphic object, (ii) a partly visible graphic object, and (iii) an invisible graphic object;

(b) means for defining, in relation to each said fully visible graphic object in said first set, a substantially identical graphic object in the second set; and

(c) means for defining, in relation to visible regions of each said partly visible graphic object in said first set, one or more non-overlapping graphic objects being visually equivalent to the partly visible graphic object, in the second set.

Claims 9-11.   (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A computer <u>readable medium storing a computer program</u> for directing a processor to execute a method of converting a representation of a first image, having a first set of overlapping graphic objects, into a display list representation of a visually equivalent second image, having a second set of non-overlapping graphic objects, said program comprising:

(a) code for ~~categorising~~ <u>categorizing</u> each graphic object in the first set as being one of (i) a fully visible graphic object, (ii) a partly visible graphic object, and (iii) an invisible graphic object;

(b) code for defining, in relation to each said fully visible graphic object in said first set, a substantially identical graphic object in the second set; and

(c) code for defining, in relation to visible regions of each said partly visible graphic object in said first set, one or more <u>non-overlapping</u> graphic objects being visually equivalent to the partly visible graphic object, in the second set.

Claims 13-15. (Cancelled).

16. (New) A method according to claim 2, wherein:

the method is performed on a scanline basis; and

step (c) comprises, for a current scanline, the steps of:

(i) determining, in a current scanning direction, a leading and a lagging edge of a visible region of a first one of said graphic objects in said first set;

(ii) defining said lagging edge to be a leading edge of a next one of said graphic objects if (i) said first graphic object extends beyond said lagging edge in the current scanning direction and (ii) said next graphic object is visible immediately beyond the lagging edge in said current scanning direction;

(iii) defining said lagging edge to be a leading edge of a next one of said graphic objects if (i) said next graphic object extends beyond said lagging edge in a direction opposite to the current scanning direction, and (ii) said next graphic object is visible immediately beyond the lagging edge in said current scanning direction; and

(iv) repeating steps (i) to (iii) for all successive pairs of leading and lagging edges of the scanline; wherein said pairs of leading and lagging edges establish the second set of visually equivalent non-overlapping graphic objects for said current scanline.